



CROP WEATHER

Released: March 31, 2003

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Agricultural Summary: Statewide, there were 4.2 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture is rated 6 percent very short, 22 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture is rated 30 percent very short, 35 percent short, and 35 percent adequate. Subsoil is critically short in Western and North Central Kansas.

Field Crop Report: Wheat condition is rated 4 percent very poor, 14 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Fifteen percent of the wheat is jointed compared to 10 percent last year and 16 percent for the 5-year average. Wheat freeze damage reports indicate 88 percent of the wheat with no damage, 9 percent with light damage, and 3 percent with moderate damage. Reports indicate that 4 percent of Kansas wheat has been lost to winterkill. Wind damage estimates place 85 percent of the wheat with no damage, 13 percent with light damage, and 2 percent with moderate damage. Insect and disease infestation is mostly minimal, with 89 percent of the wheat with none, 10 percent with light infestation, and one percent with moderate infestation. Spraying for weeds, especially tansy mustard and henbit, continues. Some wheat streak mosaic is reported in Ellsworth County. Sixty-five percent of oats have been planted compared with 84 percent last year and 66 percent for the 5-year average. Some irrigation circles in the southwest have been activated to build up soil moisture profiles and some wheat irrigation has begun. Preparations are underway Statewide for corn planting. Some corn is already planted in Southeast portions of the State.

Pasture and Range Report: Range and pasture conditions are rated 21 percent very poor, 30 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 14 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Stockwater supplies are rated 20 percent very short, 30 percent short, and 50 percent adequate. Feed grain supplies are rated 5 percent very short, 20 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Hay and forage supplies are rated 13 percent very short, 39 percent short, 47 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Some reports of army cutworms and alfalfa weevils in alfalfa fields were received.

Cooperating Agencies
Kansas State Research & Extension Service
Weather Data Library, KSU Research and Extension Service
Kansas Department of Agriculture

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING 03/30/03

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat					
3/30/03	4	14	38	37	7
3/23/03	5	16	40	33	6
3/31/02	16	25	34	23	2
Range & Pasture	21	30	34	14	1

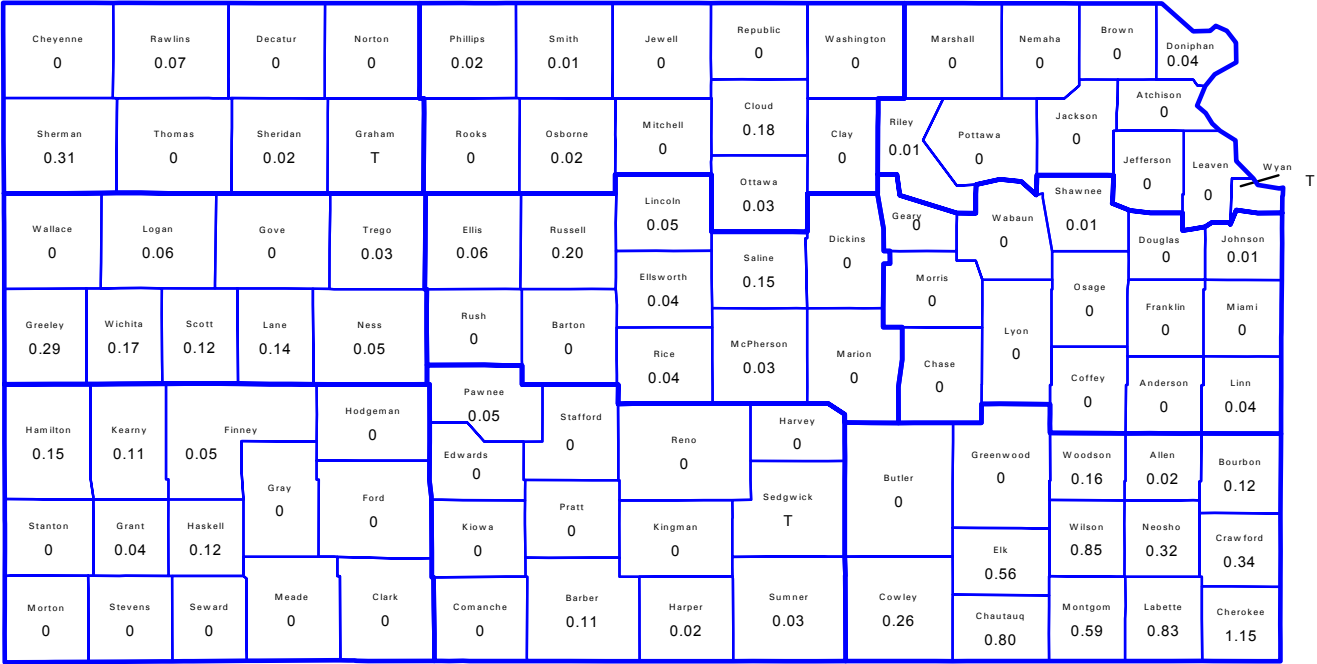
SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING 03/30/03

	NW	WC	SW	NC	C	SC	NE	EC	SE	STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR
Suit. for Fieldwork	5.0	4.8	6.0	4.9	4.0	2.9	4.9	4.1	2.1	4.2	2.2	5.9
Topsoil Moisture (Percent)												
Very Short	4	15	17	5	1	0	12	1	0	6	4	29
Short	34	29	24	34	15	4	37	29	0	22	18	47
Adequate	62	55	59	61	84	81	51	70	72	67	66	24
Surplus	0	1	0	0	0	15	0	0	28	5	12	0
Subsoil Moisture (Percent)												
Very Short	50	49	66	40	21	1	34	25	0	30	31	32
Short	47	48	29	49	33	38	39	38	4	35	33	49
Adequate	3	3	5	11	43	61	27	37	96	35	35	19
Surplus	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

TEMP. AND PRECIP. DATA, SELECTED CITIES, FOR WEEK ENDING 03/30/03														
		Soil Temp							Soil Temp					
Station		Air Temp		4 inch		Precip	Station		Air Temp		4 inch		Precip	
Dist	City	Max	Min	Max	Min	1/	Dist	City	Max	Min	Max	Min	1/	
NW	Colby	78	18	58	37	NA	SC	Hesston	69	23	71	35	NA	
WC	Tribune	70	19	56	31	NA	NE	Manhat	68	21	59	43	NA	
SW	Grdn Cty	72	22	62	31	NA	EC	Ottawa	75	21	60	41	NA	
NC	Scandia	73	18	58	37	NA	EC	Slvr Lk	73	18	63	45	NA	
C	Hays	71	19	57	37	NA	EC	Rossvl	70	16	63	43	NA	
SC	Hutch	68	23	56	43	NA	SE	Parsons	77	26	58	37	NA	
SC	St John	72	21	57	38	NA								

Data collected by Automated Stations and may differ from official stations.
NA = not available. 1/ Gauges have been covered for the winter.

PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 30, 2003



T -- Precipitation less than .005. Omission of an entry indicates report not received.